

FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1617

VERE HODGE ET AL.

Examiner: Traers, Russell S.

APPLICATION NO: 08/945,249 FILED: FEBRUARY 2, 1998

FOR: USE OF (R)-PENCICLOVIR TRIPHOSPHATE FOR THE

MANUFACTURE OF A MEDICAMENT FOR THE TREATMENT OF

VIRAL DISEASES

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPEAL BRIEF PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The period for filing a Brief on Appeal has a shortened statutory time set to expire on December 28, 2003. A four-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1480 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 430 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: April 23, 2004

Thomas R. Savitsky Attorney for Applicants

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